



## STUDENT HIV/AIDS RESEARCH DAY 2011 ORGANISING COMMITTEE

**Dr. Lucie Cluver** is a University Lecturer in Evidence-Based Social Intervention, and a Fellow of Wolfson College. She trained as a social worker, and has practiced in South Africa and the U.K. Her research interests are in the impacts on children of AIDS-orphanhood and parental AIDS-illness, particularly mental health, physical health and educational outcomes.



Current projects include a 4-year longitudinal study of mental health amongst 1200 AIDS-orphaned children and other children in Cape Town, with Cape Town Child Welfare Society ([www.helpkids.org.za](http://www.helpkids.org.za)). Dr Cluver is working with the South African National Departments of Social Development, Health and Education on the 'Young Carers Project': a national survey of 6000 children and 2600 caregivers to determine health and educational impacts of caring for an AIDS-sick caregiver ([www.youngcarers.org.za](http://www.youngcarers.org.za)). Other

projects include a cluster randomised controlled trial of psychosocial intervention for orphans and vulnerable children in Mpumalanga, with the University of Witwatersrand and Soul City.

Dr Cluver has acted as a scientific advisor to UNICEF, the WHO, and the South African National Action Committee for Children Affected by AIDS (NACCA). She leads the Centre for AIDS Interdisciplinary Research at Oxford (CAIRO). She speaks terrible Zulu and has a bad habit of missing flights.

**Dr. Mark Boyes** joined Wolfson College as a Junior Research Fellow in 2010. His PhD research (completed at the University of Western Australia) examined individual differences in stress reactivity and coping. Mark is currently working with Dr Lucie Cluver on the 'Young Carers' project ([www.youngcarers.org.za](http://www.youngcarers.org.za)), a collaboration between the University of Oxford, the South African Government, and various NGOs. The 'Young Carers' project examines the impact of caring for a parent or guardian with HIV/AIDS on

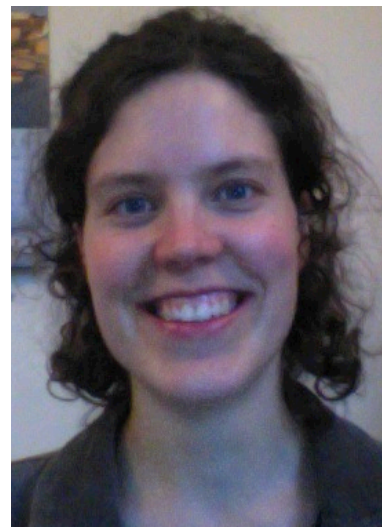


children's physical and mental health, social development, and educational outcomes. Longitudinal follow up will explore potential mechanisms through which caring for an unwell parent or guardian may influence child wellbeing.



**Dr. Anne L'lanziva** is a Kenyan medical doctor who has been working in the HIV field for about 5 years, in clinical management of patients and in a Kenyan CDC funded program on HIV program management involving strengthening the Ministry of Health's systems in HIV program work. She has seen the effect HIV/AIDS can have on families from my own family and on families affected and infected with HIV. Anne is therefore committed to improving the quality of life of patients infected by HIV and easing the burden on families. She is really looking forward to cure of HIV so that millions of innocent deaths can be averted.

**Ciara Williams** moved from Canada in September 2011 to study University of Oxford's MSc in Evidence Based Social Intervention in the department of Social Policy and Intervention. Ciara is interested meditation-based interventions, particularly in the areas of education and mental health. Ciara is a registered Social Worker and has worked in HIV/AIDS education.



**Elona Toska** came to Oxford from Albania, her home country, via Wales, the United States, South Africa, Laos and other South East Asian countries. Her work experience ranges from peer education with sex workers and MSM, PMTCT, to migrant health and HIV management policies. As a candidate for an MSc in Evidence Based Social Interventions, Elona is interested in understanding risk/resilience factors that predict/mitigate high risk sexual and reproductive behaviours. Her interest in HIV/AIDS centers on identifying and implementing effective prevention interventions.



**G.J. Melendez-Torres** is a first-year MPhil student in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and a proud resident of Green Templeton College. Originally from the city of Philadelphia in the United States, he is a registered nurse. G.J. received degrees in economics and health policy and nursing from the University of Pennsylvania in 2011. His practice advocacy interests are primarily focused on geriatric mental health and anti-sexual assault work, and his research experiences include understanding and measuring outcomes of the hospital care that disadvantaged populations receive in urban areas in the United States. Outside of his studies, G.J. enjoys eating really good food, playing the piano, and swing dancing.

**Ishan Asokan** graduated Magna Cum Laude with Honors and Departmental Distinction from the University of Pennsylvania in May of 2010 with a B.A. in Neuroscience and Biology. After conducting Developmental Neuroscience research, he shifted his focus to HIV/AIDS prevention and LGBT-specific health issues. Under the guidance of University of Chicago Professor Dr. John Schneider, Ishan joined a clinical HIV/AIDS prevention program targeting MSM populations in Hyderabad, India, where he spent four months analyzing sexual health networks. As a current MSc. in Global Health Science student and future research physician, Ishan wants to improve access to culturally competent care for marginalized communities in developing nations.



**Neesha Rockwood** hails from Colombo, Sri Lanka. She studied medicine at Imperial, College, London and went onto Specialty Registrar training in GUM/HIV medicine at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London. Neesha is reading an MSc in Global Health Sciences at Oxford University and her main research interests are: HIV/TB and HIV/hepatitis co-infection and toxicity of anti-retroviral therapy.





**Dr Tosin Ogunmoyero** is a Nigerian trained medical doctor currently studying for a MSc in Global Health Sciences at University of Oxford and in Kellogg College. She has a strong interest in Maternal and Child health focusing on reducing maternal mortality and preventing maternal to child transmission of HIV/AIDS. She also has strong interests in adolescent reproductive health issues. She is a trained peer health educator trainer and she loves to meet people.

**Pattie Gonsalves**, 23, is a Masters student at the Department of Public Health. She previously worked with UNICEF and is a founding member of Music Basti, a participative music education program for children at risk in India. Her background is in psychology and development programmes focused on human rights projects largely around issues of child health and participation, mental health, and HIV/AIDS. She is also a member of the Asia Pacific Network of HIV Social Researchers.



**Dr. Sahar Bhatti's** interest in HIV began a decade ago whilst volunteering at Aga Khan hospital Pakistan; she was drawn to the complex taboos and stigmas surrounding the virus. At medical school, she worked with local caregivers in Mzuzu, Malawi, to provide clinical care to HIV positive patients in rural settings and worked in voluntary testing and counselling clinics. In Uganda, she participated in a HIV/Malaria education initiative targeting school children ravaged by civil war and poverty. . Working within the challenging context of civil war deepened her practical understanding of government priorities and the role of International aid. Participating in a model parliament to discuss the EU's role in combating infectious diseases further deepened her insight into the challenges posed by HIV globally.



As a junior doctor at Kings College Hospital, Sahar witnessed the multifaceted impact of HIV on her patients and colleagues. Ethical issues were prevalent on the wards and led to multidisciplinary meetings tackling delicate issues such as that of a pregnant HIV positive lady declining ARVs. Sahar is currently studying Global Health Sciences at the University Of Oxford with a view to contribute to research into prevention of mother to child transmission of the virus.



**Sarah Scott** joined the Social Policy and Interventions department in 2011 to study for an MSc in Evidence Based Social Interventions. Prior to joining the department she gained her undergraduate degree in social anthropology from the University of Durham earlier this year. While she has no specific area of research or interest yet she is keen to learn more and feels that the best way to achieve this and make the most of her time at Oxford is to get as involved in academic life as possible.

**Thi Thun** has a background in medicine and is currently reading MSc

Global Health Science at Department of Public Health. His work experience includes three years with INGOs named Population Services International (PSI) and Mediciens Sans Frontiers (MSF) in his home country, Burma. His main interest is co-infection of tuberculosis and HIV.



**Yulia**

**Shenderovich** is

an MSc student in Evidence-Based Social Intervention from Belarus. Her main research interests lie in the fields of education and behaviour change and in regard to HIV/AIDS - its social aspects and prevention in different cultural contexts. Yulia has worked and volunteered as an education project manager, university tutor and summer camp counsellor in Belarus and Bulgaria, where she studied at the American University in Bulgaria. Fond of debating social issues, Yulia coordinates The Oxford Hub Series.



**Dr. Adanna Chukwuma** is a Nigerian-trained physician currently studying for an Msc in Global Health Science, Department of Public Health. She has been involved in health care delivery for women and children in rural northern Nigeria. Her interests include health systems organization/financing and health policy.

